

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor****Federal Tax ID: 92-0112246****Project Title:****Project Type: New Construction and Land Acquisition**

# Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor - Construction of Nuniaq Community Center

**State Funding Requested: \$4,454,968****House District: 32 / P**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Construction of the Nuniaq Community Center that will serve the Village of Old Harbor, providing a computer lab for computer and high-speed internet access for all community members.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost: \$7,254,968

Funding Already Secured: (\$2,800,000)

FY2023 State Funding Request: (\$4,454,968)

Project Deficit: \$0

*Funding Details:**Secured Funding:**Old Harbor Native Corporation (In-kind) \$100,000**Old Harbor Settlement Trust (Trust) \$200,000**ARPA Tribal Funding \$1,000,000**FY2022 HLS Appropriations \$1,500,000***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The proposed project is to construct the Nuniaq Community Center with the Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor (ATOH) as the grant recipient.

The ATOH is a federally recognized tribe and was established in 1972 with a base roll of 333. The base roll has grown to 634 members.

The ATOH, Old Harbor Native Corporation and City of Old Harbor all work together to benefit community members. A new community facility has been a priority for the community for the past 20 years and the proposed project is listed as a priority in the Community Plan for the Village of Old Harbor .

The schematic design has been complete and the long-term land lease agreement from the City of Old

Harbor is approved. The Old Harbor Native Corporation has approved in-kind support for the management of the project and grants as well as a financial contribution to the project.

The Nuniaq Community Center will consist of a large open gathering area, commercial kitchen, office spaces for tribal staff and youth programs, computer lab for community members, storage and a preschool space. It will be approximately 10,280 square feet.

The large open gathering area and commercial kitchen will facilitate meetings, gathering, youth programs, educational training and more. The computer lab will provide a space with designated hours for youth and general public to utilize computers and have free high-speed internet access.

Most homes in the village do not have computers or internet access and this computer lab will provide a much-needed service for community members.

The Tribal offices will include space for the Old Harbor Preschool, Youth Center, Environmental Department (Indian General Assistance Program), Women's Wellness (Office of Violence Against Women), Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), Tribal Transportation Program, Finance, NAHASDA Housing, Administration, Scholarship Program, and Enrollment.

There will be a designated tribal youth space for an afterschool program and education and extracurricular activities that will have computer and internet access.

Additionally, the preschool area will provide for a dedicated space facilitating early childhood education. The facility will meet American with Disabilities Act requirements and allow our Elders and disabled community members to participate in events.

The current facility utilized for all community gatherings, youth programs and tribal offices is extremely dilapidated and presents health and safety risks for all that enter the building. Because of these risks, our preschool moved into our Senior Center where they currently share the space.

Additionally, both buildings are located at sea level and are a tsunami risk. The top floor is used for tribal & community meetings and gatherings, training, regional meetings and more. Because it is located on the second floor, many Elders and disabled community members cannot participate in events. Additionally, it is used for youth and community activities and serves as a learning center for various events. Often during large gatherings the building shakes and shutters and feels as though we may fall thru the floor.

There are heating and plumbing concerns (frozen/broken pipes) that have created mold infestations. The facility has very poor energy efficiencies with dilapidated doors and broken windows. The foundation consists of pilings on pilings and are deteriorated. The toilets and kitchen sinks have had many leaks, have poor drainage and back up.

The downstairs area of the facility is where all tribal offices are located. There are five offices spaces, two restrooms, utility room and limited storage space. Within the five offices, 10 departments share the space. The limited space produces overcrowded workspace, limited storage capacity, and concerns for confidential correspondence for sensitive issues. The Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor and community entities are working with the current facilities in order to provide basic services for its Tribal and community members, but is severely in need of a new facility.

With the construction of a new 10,250 square foot Nuniaq Community Center, ATOH will be able to offer a Community Center, Preschool, Youth Center & Computer lab and offices spaces to provide for Tribal & healthy community programs and events.

The Nuniaq Community Center (Nuniaq Center) will be the heart of the village and will be instrumental for the overall health and welfare of the native village of Old Harbor. It will provide opportunities for education, employment, culture, and health and wellbeing for all who it serves. This will in turn boost the local economy and help to contribute to the overall economic development.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$7,254,968. \$2,800,000 has been secured to date and additional grant applications with HUD ICDBG & Rasmuson Foundation have been submitted.

ATOH has engaged with the HUD Title VI Funds with Kodiak Island Housing Authority and BIA Section 105(I) Lease program. The future sustainability of the project will be provided by implementation of an operations and maintenance plan with reserves for capital improvements (roof, windows, etc). Funding from Tribal office space rental and kitchen and facility rental will provide funds to maintain the facility.

Project director will be Cynthia Berns with support from Carl Gatter. Ms. Berns is the OHNC Vice President of Community and External Affairs and has worked for the village of Old Harbor for the last 15 years. Ms. Berns has 10 years of experience with planning, designing and constructing capital projects in

Old Harbor, Alaska. Ms. Berns holds a Bachelor's Degree from UAA (2003), Master's Degree in Rural Development from UAF (2011), Alaska Native Executive Leadership Program Certificate from APU (2017) and a Nonprofit Management Certificate from The Foraker Group (2019). Carl Gatter is the Vice President of Operations for OHNC. Mr. Gatter holds a BBA in Accounting from UAF and is a CPA with many years of experience in accounting and project management.

### Project Timeline:

Out to Bid: October 2022-December 2022

Construction: March 2023-September 2023

### Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor

### Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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## Total Project Snapshot Report

2022 Legislature

TPS Report 67438v1

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No